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objects. In addition, the gathering of information about objects which are to be represented in drawing, and the study of pictures to see how certain effects are produced, are employed.

Mention can only be made, in addition, of the manner in which the problem of correlation is attacked. This is one of the most characteristic features of the course. In general, the solution is sought by looking to other branches, as history, geography, and nature-study, to furnish the interests and the subjects, and then by choosing from these subjects such projects as suit the child's capacity at various ages and form a progressive series in difficulty of technique. Illustrations of such projects for all the school grades are given in detail, and the course in use in the University Elementary School is described in full.

FRANK N. FREEMAN

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

English Literature. By JULIAN ABERNETHY. New York: Charles E. Merrill Co. Pp. 583.

Almost every publisher of school texts offers a history of English literature; hence a new edition must have unusual features to recommend it.

The History of English Literature, published by the Charles E. Merrill Co; and written by Dr. Julian Abernethy, has two distinguishing characteristics. The author has allowed himself sufficient space to give the particulars of his story something like true proportion; for instance, he allows himself four chapters in which to describe the Elizabethan era, without feeling that he must consequently cut down a less important period into a mere catalogue of names; and the minor writers are kept remarkably clear, considering the brevity of the text. The final chapter, which discusses the chief literary tendencies of the present age movements, is perhaps the most unusual part of the book.

Bird Friends: A Complete Bird Book for Americans. By GILBERT H. TRAFTON. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co.

Friends of the birds will welcome Gilbert H. Trafton's new book. Wide-spread interest in the economic as well as in the aesthetic value of the feathered inhabitants of our country has been aroused as the evils resulting from the reckless slaughter of many important species have become more and more evident. In this work the author has made a general survey of the whole subject in such a way that the situation may be understood by the public. The facts necessary to an intelligent knowledge of the subject are given in an entertaining way. By means of illustrations and carefully worked out tables the service of the birds in the destruction of insects and noxious weeds is effectively presented, and followed by a discussion of those birds which are

popularly classed as harmful. This topic is interesting and valuable, since a comparatively small amount of damage has so often created a prejudice which has led to indiscriminate slaughter of some species. Instead of the usual generalizations which are so unsatisfying to one who desires information, accurate data are used in presenting these subjects. A balance is struck as to just how our account with the birds stands. After his conclusive showing of the essential value of birds and their decreasing numbers, their need of protection from the encroachments of civilization becomes evident and appeals to the reader as a vital question. Not only has man himself been an enemy of these good friends, but he has introduced and cared for birds and animals which have been responsible for a large decrease in the bird population. All of this is presented in a way which is never wearisome, but convinces the reader and enlists his sympathies for these invaluable guardians of our forests, orchards, and crops, so that he is readily interested in the many practicable methods of attracting and caring for them which are given in the concluding chapters. Audubon societies and teachers who are trying to create an interest in, and a love for, these delightful and most useful neighbors of ours will find that this book covers the field in a highly serviceable manner; whatever the phase of the study on which information is sought, whether observation of the habits, identification, economic value, or protection, the student and the general reader will find facts and suggestions of value. For those who desire to make a detailed study of any of these topics a bibliography is provided.

The definite and clear discussion of this important question, in a handsome yet serviceable binding, with good paper, large, clear type, and many fine illustrations, make up a very desirable volume for both public and private libraries.

ETHEL GOLDEN

IOWA CITY, IOWA

The Promise of American Life. By JAMES CLOYD BOWMAN. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1916. Pp. 303.

The Promise of Country Life, is the attractive title of a book of descriptions and narrations to be used as models in an agricultural course in English.

The reader who is primarily interested in agricultural students can but be jealous when he reads the table of contents and the author's preface dedicating the work especially to this group of students. In his effort to appeal to farm boys, Mr. Bowman has happily broadened his appeal to American boys and girls. The selections, without being erudite, are full of the call of the woods and the by-lanes and the out-of-doors.

The work has been carefully planned. The author says in his preface: "The first group of selections has to do with the type of individual who is most at home in the country. The second treats of the pleasures which may be found in solitude; the third shows how various types of men have found